



Photo by Keith Pederson

Taking a bite outta crime

Airman 1st Class Lisa M. Dewispelaere, 377th Security Forces Squadron, fingerprints children who attended Crime Prevention Day, April 12 at the BX. Over 80 children were fingerprinted and crime prevention handbooks for military housing residents were given out as well as handouts with topics like home security, personal safety and domestic violence. Members of the security forces Bike Patrol Section also provided bike identification engraving for children and adults.

Kirtland AFB plans Earth Day celebration April 23

BY R. STEVE MILLIGAN

377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

For more than 32 years, Americans have been celebrating Earth Day. It's a time to reflect on how we treat and care for our planet so that it will be around for future generations.

The first Earth Day took place on April 22, 1970. Many of the participants feared that if something weren't done to change the way we live our lives and do business, the earth wouldn't last another 20 years.

It was the age of the peaceniks and every gathering for a cause was known as a love-in, sit-in, or teach-in. This sparked an idea with former senator from Wisconsin, Gaylord Nelson. He started a grass roots campaign to bring attention to the environment.

Nelson enlisted the aid of Denis Hayes who became the national coordinator of the

first event that would later be known as Earth Day.

While Nelson generated support on both sides of the aisle in Congress, Hayes began contacting colleges across the nation to spread the word.

The response was more successful than either man could have imagined.

From that early success arose a new consciousness for the environment and led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and passage of legislation such as the Clean Air and Water Acts.

Today, millions celebrate Earth Day in cities and towns around the country and, thanks to the Internet, the world.

TEAM KIRTLAND will celebrate as well on April 23, at the Boy's and Girl's Club, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

"We're holding our Earth Day celebra-

tion on the 23rd because the elementary schools on and near the base get out early that day and we wanted to make sure the children could participate," said Cynthia Gooch, Earth Day coordinator.

There will be activities for children of all ages according to Gooch, including a scavenger hunt, a Global Positioning Satellite demonstration, interactive games, hands-on projects and lots of free stuff. There will be a storytelling session where participants can actually plant a tree.

"We want to make it fun and educational," Gooch said.

There will also be a live Burrowing Owl and a raptor on hand.

Parents are encouraged to make this a weeklong event by teaching their children the importance of recycling and taking household recyclables to the Recycling Center in the parking lot of the Commissary.

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